Mr. John W. Hasland
5530 Eastbourne Drive
Springfield, VA 22151

10/24/92

Dear John,

What is with your 10/8 looks interesting. I'll be reading it in odds of ends of time and if I see anything to call to your attention I'll try to remember to make notes. I'll have this in a separate file folder or envelope marked "confidential." Meanwhile I respond to your letter,

I do not recall Stern's questioning of Bookhout and agree with you that it is interesting, well, more than that. I do not recall that it was known the afternoon of 11/22 that Oswald had been to Mexico and I wonder, as you do, how Hosty knew. In this regard I have two indices that may interest you, one is the Dallas index of documents and the other of records. I caution you that I am certain these are selective and were created, at considerable time and other costs, to provide an out-of-Washington control over what the Commission got from the FBI. So, you may want to check these when you are here again. (So FBI would know what it had given W.C. - and what it had not given it.)

The index itself duplicated entries in the general indices. The FBI did this on some major cases and I decided long ago it was a control device for their special interest in control.

I have no recollection of CD 349 except possibly a very dim and vague one. But if that Hosty business interests you as I went over the records on delivery I made duplicate copies of all that relate to it and they are in what I call my "subject" file.

I wondered at how the testimony was printed when I first saw the 26. To a degree it is roughly by subject of one kind or another. I have no idea why they departed from the norm. Perhaps there was another motive but I did not think of any then and have not thought of it since. Have you thought of phoning Howard Willens and asking him? Or writing him if you think he might be unwilling to talk? He is practising law in DC and is one of Weinbergers lawyers now.

The first of the volumes of testimony hold the witnesses who appared before Members of the Commission. The staff depositions follow. This accounts for the Hosty (DC) and Bookout (Dallas) testimony being in different volumes.

I noticed by accident in handling the enclosure in taking them from the envelope that Adams deposed only a single witness. He has long been rather a mystery to me. He was the first to leave and deposing O'Brien was not to the best of my recollection the area of the work he was in charge of, the work that very soon became Specter's. So, I wondered whether he left as early and as quietly as he did because of a basic disagreement with what he perceived. As Leon Hubert did. I don't know whether he left a deposit of records. He had, among other things, been New York City's police commissioner. It might be interesting if

we could learn. I've made no effort and would not know where to start. But he did begin with the most important part of the Commission's work assigned to him and I've not seen any one thing he did on it.

I'll mark the folder for what you sent Database. If you have a name for it please let me know and I'll use it.

To the best of my recollection Hosty is still alive, living in Kansas City, if you'd care to call him and ask him. His son is security director for a large outfit. Same name.

Hosty is not a conservative, which I regard as a respectable thing. He is an extremist of the fathrurest-out right extreme. You might want to bear this in mind if you do phone him.

At this point you phoned.

Thanks and best wishes,

Harold

Harold Weisberg

1st FBI No knew LHO had gone to Mexico - it did know he'd left N.O. - Hosty had just gotten the Oswald file from N.O. 11/22/63